

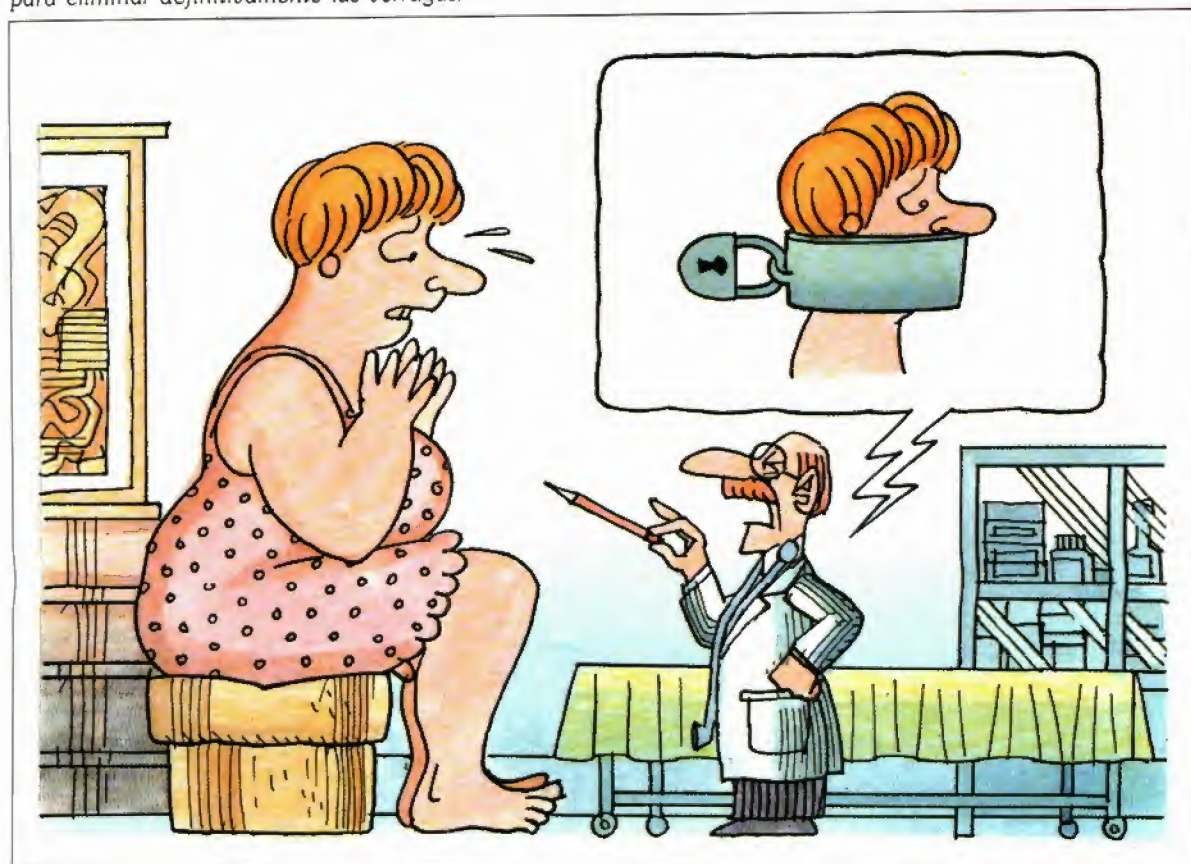
■ La salud ante todo

La vida sedentaria, el estrés, los hábitos alimentarios inadecuados, las diversas contaminaciones y el humo, provocan inevitablemente repercusiones negativas en nuestra salud. Quien está acostumbrado a abusar de sus energías, a menudo no presta atención a las señales que el organismo le envía, como otros tantos avisos de que una simple indisposición puede transformarse en un problema más grave. Un buen ejemplo de ello nos lo brinda la protagonista de esta Unidad, una mujer de mediana edad y pleno rendimiento en su trabajo, obligada a tomar medidas adecuadas ante las primeras señales de alarma. La admonición del médico y los inequívocos resultados de los análisis clínicos lograrán inducirle a modificar sus hábitos alimentarios, dejar de fumar y practicar deporte; pero, lamentablemente, este cambio radical no tendrá un efecto positivo en su marido. En este contexto, en el que prevalecen las órdenes del médico, la sección Grammar le enseñará precisamente los 'reporting verbs' adecuados para formular recomendaciones y consejos. En cambio, la medicina empírica es la encargada de animar la sección Reading: el fragmento tomado de 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer', del célebre Mark Twain, le ofrece un par de remedios —tan divertidos como improbables— para eliminar definitivamente las verrugas.



UNIT 89

THIRD
LEVEL





Nueva Zelanda: los antípodas se nos parecen

Dos mil kilómetros al sudeste de Australia, más allá del mar de Tasmania y ya en pleno océano Pacífico, está Nueva Zelanda. Es un estado de Oceanía geográficamente próximo a Melanesia y a Polinesia, pero vinculado a la historia anglosajona por su destino colonial. Nueva Zelanda es miembro de la Commonwealth y está habitada casi exclusivamente por descendientes de colonos británicos. Además, algunos aspectos del paisaje y las características climáticas pueden recordar ciertas regiones europeas: los pastizales y las colinas (en las fotos), los valles, los altiplanos con lagos morrénicos y las montañas que superan los 3.000 metros. Todo esto concentrado en menos de 300.000 kilómetros cuadrados de superficie.



The chairwoman's check-up



Mrs Tonkin is the chairman (or chairwoman, or chairperson, if you prefer) of a large company called Holbein Holdings, and, like many company directors, she lives under a lot of stress, working long hours, sleeping four or five hours a night, smoking too much and eating the wrong kind of food. Naturally enough, Mrs Tonkin's health has started to suffer. So she goes along to the doctor, who in turn sends her to the hospital for some tests. After a few weeks, she goes back to the doctor, who has received a report from the hospital in the meantime, to hear what he has to say.

In the dialogue that takes place between them, there's a rather interesting point which we haven't dealt with so far. It appears quite early, in this sentence: **Now, let's have a look at the results, shall we?** You know, of course, that **let's** is used when someone wants to make a suggestion. But what happens when you want to put a 'question tag' at the end of a sentence that begins with **let's**? The answer, as you can see, is to use **shall we?**

There are also a number of very useful phrasal verbs that appear in the dialogue. **To get on**, for example, which here means **to perform**. And **to cut down** is to **reduce the amount** of something. Here, the doctor is telling Mrs Tonkin to reduce the amount of red meat she eats. Remember that **to cut down**, when it's used in this way, is followed by the preposition **on**. But if cutting down isn't enough, you may have to **give up** completely. This phrasal verb, which you've already seen in the sense of **to surrender**, also means **to stop** doing something. Notice that it's followed by a gerund: **I gave up smoking last year**. The last phrasal verb you'll come across is **to put**

one's name down. As you can see from the context, the doctor thinks Mrs Tonkin should put her name on the list of people who want to do the yoga course.

There's some interesting medical terminology, as well. **Check-up** shouldn't cause you too many problems, as it's a word that

also exists in Spanish in a very similar form: it's a series of tests which are carried out to check on someone's general state of health. And when the doctor mentions the **results** of the check-up, of course, he's referring to the information that the hospital has sent him about how Mrs Tonkin got on in the tests.

Cutting down and giving up

Mrs Tonkin, a middle-aged executive, is paying a visit to her doctor after having a check-up at the hospital:

Good morning, doctor. ---

Ah, good morning, Mrs Tonkin. How are you today? ---

Not bad, I suppose. A bit tired. ---

I see. How did you get on at the hospital? ---

Well, it took a bit longer than I thought. ---

Yes, well, it's worthwhile having a good check-up once in a while, don't you think? Now, let's have a look at the results, shall we? Oh dear. Cholesterol count's a bit high, I'm afraid. ---

What does that mean? ---

Well, you'll have to be careful. Otherwise you could find yourself with problems. It's not surprising, though. You're a woman in a position of great responsibility, so you probably live under a lot of stress, which is something you really ought to avoid. Do you get much sleep, Mrs Tonkin? ---

Oh, I don't know. About four or five hours a night, I suppose. ---

Mmm. It's not enough. You should really try to sleep more.

And what about your diet? Do you eat a lot of red meat, rich food, that kind of thing? ---

Well, yes, I do, I suppose. It's all those business lunches. ---

I see. Now, you should cut down on red meat and try to eat more cereals, vegetables, wholemeal bread, and fruit. Try having a plate of muesli every morning for breakfast. That'll help. I'll give you a diet sheet so that you know what to avoid. Okay? ---

If you insist, doctor. ---

And you're a smoker, as well, aren't you? ---

Yes, I am. ---

How many cigarettes do you smoke a day? ---

About forty. ---

Forty! My goodness. You must stop smoking as soon as you can. Try the Smetham Clinic. They do a very good course for people who want to give up smoking. ---

Can't I just cut down, doctor? ---

No, you can't. And what about exercise? Do you get any? ---

Well, I walk to the office occasionally. ---

How often is that? ---

Well, a couple of times a month, I suppose. ---

Mmm. It's just not enough, I'm afraid. You should start taking regular exercise as soon as possible. Nothing too strenuous. Just a little light gymnastics or something. Or even yoga. That will help with the stress, too. The Council run some excellent courses twice a week. I think perhaps you should put your name down. Now lie down over here on the couch. I'd like to check your pulse. ---

My wife's in a bit of a state



After her visit to the doctor's surgery, Mrs Tonkin goes home and talks to her husband about the situation, telling him about the doctor's recommendations and orders. And this brings us to an area of reported speech which is rather new to you. As you know (and as you can see if you look back at the previous dialogue), when people give other people advice and recommendations, they often use modal verbs, like **must**. But what happens when you want to express the same ideas in reported speech?

The answer is that English, like Spanish, has a number of reporting verbs which can be used on occasions like this. Verbs like **to urge**, **to invite**, **to command** and **to encourage**, all of which you will be able to find in the dialogue that takes place between Mrs Tonkin and her husband. Some of them are not difficult to interpret. **To invite**, **to command**, **to encourage** and **to urge** are all fairly similar to their Spanish equivalents.

These are only some of the reporting verbs which can be used on occasions like these, of course. You'll be able to find more examples, and a fuller explanation of how they are used, in the GRAMMAR section of this Unit.

Now take a look at the strange expression in Mrs Tonkin's second sentence: **I'm in a bit of a state**. Here, **state** is used informally to talk about a rather negative physical condition. But it is often used to talk about bad emotional or psychological states, as well. You may hear, for example, about someone **getting into a state** because his wife has left him, or a student **getting into a state** before his exams.

A little later on you'll find yet another useful phrasal verb: **to go into** something. Again, this verb has a number of meanings, but the way Mrs Tonkin uses it here is one of the most common. She wants to say that she does not want to **explain in depth** her reasons for not wanting to give up her job.

Carrots and wholemeal bread

In this dialogue, pay particular attention to the way Mrs Tonkin tells her husband about the doctor's advice and recommendations:

Well, how did it go? ---

Not very well, I'm afraid. According to the check-up I did at the hospital, I'm in a bit of a state. Doctor Fresnay seemed to be particularly worried about my cholesterol count. ---

Oh, dear. What did he say? ---

Well, he advised me to avoid stress. But I don't see how I can do that in my position. ---

Well, I have to say I agree with him. You work far too hard. Why don't you retire from the chairmanship of Holbein Holdings? We've got all the money we need. ---

Now, I'm not going to go into that again, Samuel. You know as well as I do that I can't live without my work. ---

What else did he say? ---

Well, he urged me to get more sleep. ---

He's right there, too. ---

And he recommended a change of diet. He told me not to eat any more red meat and rich food. And he even told me to start eating muesli in the morning. Can you imagine? I can't stand the stuff. He's given me this diet sheet. It's terrible. He's forbidden all the things I like best: cream cakes, steak, whisky... and he's inviting me to eat things like wholemeal bread and carrots. I can't follow this. I'll end up jumping around like a rabbit! ---

Did he say anything about your smoking? ---

Oh, yes. He virtually ordered me to give it up. ---

I'm not surprised. You smoke like a chimney. ---

Do you know, he almost commanded me to go to the Smetham clinic, whatever that is. And then he started encouraging me to go to those yoga courses they do at the Town Hall. ---

That's a good idea. ---

Samuel! Can you see the chairman of Holbein in the locust position? ---

And what happened then? ---

Then he asked me to lie down on the couch and he took my pulse. ---

Was it high? ---

Yes, it was. Too high, I suppose. ---

Please, Edwina, why don't you do as he says? He does know best, after all... ---



What about getting some exercise?

After much pressure on the part of her husband, Mrs Tonkin finally agrees to start doing some physical exercise. Taking her doctor's advice, she decides that the best thing is a little yoga. The next time we meet her, she has just returned from her first yoga class, and is telling her husband all about it.

Once again, you'll have the opportunity to see some reported speech. This time, Mrs Tonkin talks about the occasion on which she asked for instructions and advice from her teacher, and the suggestions he gave her after the class. As you will discover by going through the dialogue and looking through the GRAMMAR section, here, too, there are a number of reporting verbs which are quite new to you.

In addition, there are some other words and expressions which you may not be able to guess from the context. **Gentle**, for example, is a famous false friend. Even though it looks very similar to Spanish word, it has a rather different meaning. It is used to describe something (or someone) that is not violent or rough. You'll be able to find out



more about this in the Synonyms box in the VOCABULARY section.

That's a laugh! is, of course, very ironic. Mrs Tonkin doesn't mean that the teacher made her laugh when he started showing the students how to breathe. She wants to express the fact that she thinks it is ridiculous. As you will discover, however, her attitude changes fairly quickly!

To **creak** is used in rather a special way here. Usually, this verb describes the sound

That's a laugh!

After her first yoga class, Mrs Tonkin is explaining how things went to her husband. As you go through this dialogue, pay attention to the way she tells him about the occasion she asked the teacher for instructions, and the way she tells her husband about his suggestions:

How did it go? ---

Samuel, it was awful. I feel absolutely exhausted. ---

But I thought yoga was supposed to be quite gentle. ---

Well, it was for the others. They had no problems at all. But some of those positions...! ---

What did you do exactly? ---

Well, the first thing this oriental gentleman showed us was how to breathe. That's a laugh! I've been doing it for nearly fifty years and along comes this chap and tells me that I don't know how to do it properly. We all lay down on the floor and started to breathe in and out very slowly, taking deep breaths. ---

Sounds very therapeutic. ---

I started coughing. Then he taught us how to stretch. When I inquired how we were supposed to do that exactly, he came over with one of the better students and showed me. Very simple, really. You just imagine you're a cat. ---

Oh, yes. I've heard that a lot of those yoga positions are based on the movements of animals. ---

Exactly. The next one was called the crocodile. ---

Really? ---

I had problems with that one, too. Then this student offered to help me, and I accepted. I could never have done it on my own. The old bones were already beginning to creak. Honestly, I would never have done this if you hadn't begged me to. God, it's so humiliating. ---

Did you talk to the yogi afterwards? ---

The yogi? ---

Yes, you know. The teacher. That's what they call them, isn't it? Yogi? ---

Is it? Well, I tried to avoid him, but he managed to get hold of me on the way out. ---

What did he say? ---

Well, he suggested doing the exercises at home every day.

Here, on the floor of the front room. Can you imagine? ---

Are you going to? ---

Well, I'll see. Right now all I want to do is go to bed. ---

Good idea. I'll make you a nice cup of something if you like. ---

a door makes when it needs some oil. Here, though, our heroine uses it metaphorically, to describe the aches she started to feel when she tried to do some of the positions!

Finally, a **crocodile**, as you can probably guess, is the large reptile with a big flat mouth and two long rows of teeth that lives in rivers in hot countries. It is also the name of a position in yoga which, to tell the truth, isn't quite as difficult as Edwina would like her husband to believe!



■ A good way to start the day



In spite of her inauspicious start, Mrs Tonkin soon grows to like the idea of physical exercise. In fact, she likes it so much she starts taking up other sports, as well. The trouble is, she expects her husband to join in. So it is that one fine February morning she wakes him up at half past six for their first run together...

As far as grammar is concerned, you won't find much that's new in this dialogue, but it will help you to see some reporting verbs in action once more.

On the other hand, there are a fair number of colloquial expressions. For example, take poor Samuel's sentence *She's got a lot to answer for*. This rather bitter sentence means that, in Samuel's opinion, Margaret is responsible for a lot of rather unpleasant things (like making him get up at half past six in the morning!).

Then there's the expression *spare tyre*. Now, you already know that the spare wheel is the wheel which you find in the boot of a car which you can use if you have

Running on a spare tyre

It is half past six on a nice, fresh February morning. Samuel is being woken up by his rejuvenated wife for the first of their morning runs:

Good Grief! Where are you going dressed up like that at this time of the morning? ----

I'm going for a run. Do you want to come? ----

No, thanks. I prefer to stay in bed. Since when did you start going out for a run at half past six in the morning? ----

This is the first time. Margaret does it every morning, and she suggested it. Says it makes a good start to the day. ----

Margaret? Isn't she the one who used to help you at yoga classes? ----

That's right. I don't think I would ever have made it without her. ----

She's got a lot to answer for. ----

What do you mean? You and Doctor Fresnay were the first ones to encourage me to live a healthier life. ----

Yes, you're right, I suppose. ----

Come on, Samuel, why don't you try? It might help you to get rid of that spare tyre. ----

I can't. ----

Why not? ----

I haven't got anything to wear. ----

That's what you think. I bought this for you yesterday. ----

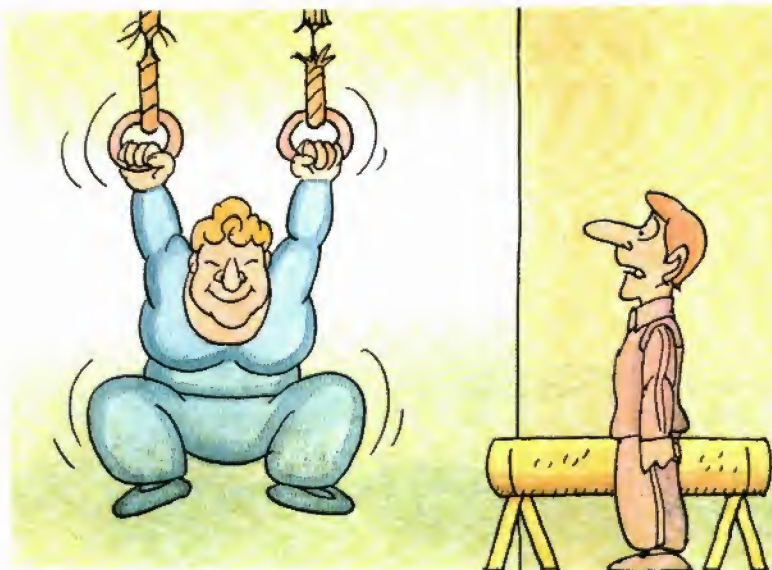
A track suit? ----

And these. ----

Running shoes? But you didn't even ask me if I wanted to go running with you! ----

Come on. Up you get! ----

Oh, my God! I know I'm going to live to regret this. ----



ve a puncture. So it shouldn't be too difficult to guess what a spare tyre is. But what on earth is it doing in this situation? The answer is that the expression *spare tyre* is also used metaphorically to talk about the fat waist of a person who doesn't get much exercise.

You'll also find that Edwina uses a very colloquial phrase when she orders her husband to get out of bed: *Up you get!* Here, she puts the preposition right at the very beginning of the sentence, presumably because she wants to emphasize it. And, even though it's an imperative, she still uses the pronoun *you*.

Finally, let's have a look at the sentence *Says it makes a good start to the day*. Remember that the subject is quite often left out in everyday speech, and this explains why *says* is all alone at the beginning of the sentence. In addition, *start* is used as a noun here, not as a verb. You could paraphrase the second part of the sentence *It is a good way to start the day*.



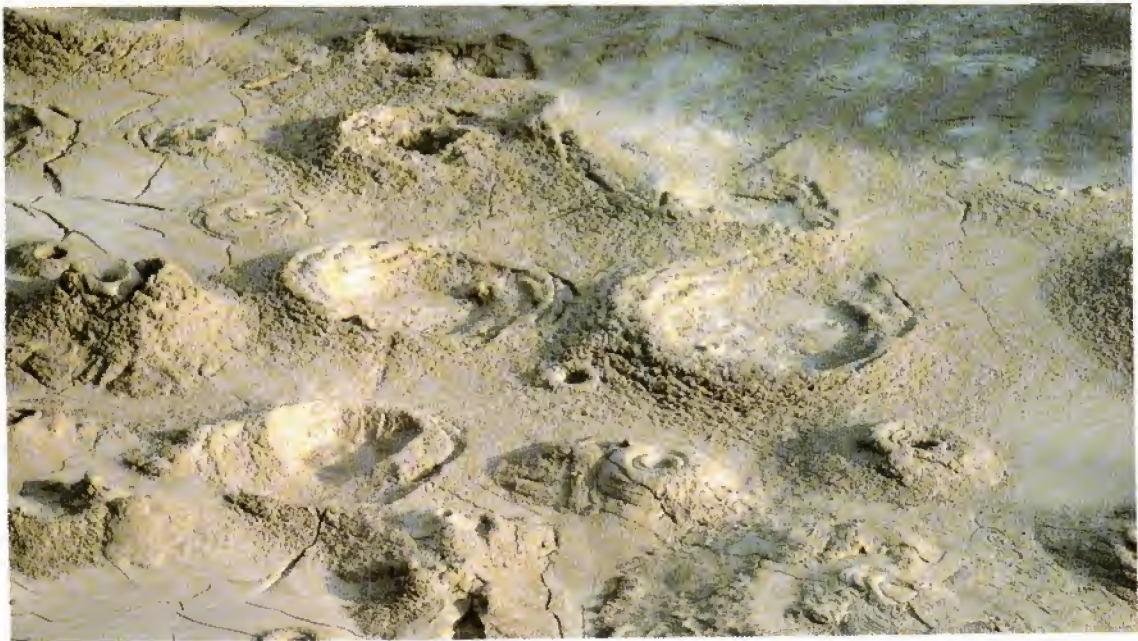
Dos islas en el Pacífico

Nueva Zelanda está compuesta por dos islas principales, la isla del Norte y la isla del Sur, separadas por el estrecho de Cook y rodeadas por una serie de islotes menores; completan el conjunto otros pequeños archipiélagos más distantes (islas Chatman, islas Bounty, islas de los Antipodas, etc.). La isla del Norte se extiende en torno a un altiplano central, erosionado por las glaciaciones y dominado por cumbres de origen volcánico (el Ruapehu, 2.796 metros; el Ngauruhoe, 2.291 metros). Las cordilleras descienden hacia el mar a través de verdes valles sembrados de lagos morrénicos y recorridos por numerosos ríos. En las imágenes, el monte Tarawera, famoso por su erupción en 1886, y un lago en la región de Rotorua.



Una fuente termal bajo la casa

Rotorua, ciudad de la isla del Norte a 280 metros sobre el nivel del mar, es el centro vital de un área lacustre en la que se manifiestan fenómenos volcánicos menores. Fuentes termales, manantiales de fangos sulfúreos y sobre todo géiseres (en las fotos) alimentan una floreciente industria termal y aportan una considerable contribución al sector energético. Las características geológicas del subsuelo, si bien provocan algunas preocupaciones sobre eventuales catástrofes, han otorgado a Rotorua el muy publicitario sobrenombre de Sulphur City, lo que se traduce en hoteles, centros de tratamientos termales y mucha riqueza. Toda la zona puede ser recorrida a pie siguiendo itinerarios naturales.





■ Humiliating runs in the rain

Even though Mr Tonkin decides to help Edwina by going on her morning runs with her, everything is not as rosy as it could be. After going running on a rainy day and slipping on the road, Mr Tonkin finds himself with the beginnings of influenza and a pain-

ful big toe! So, six months after Mrs Tonkin's first visit, the doctor has the pleasure of welcoming another member of the family into his surgery...

The dialogue that takes place between them is actually very useful from the point of view of pronunciation, however. In it, you will find nearly every pronunciation of the letter *u* in the English language. There are just three missing: the *ou* of words like **bourgeois**, the *eau* of words like **beau**, and the *ur* of words like **sulphur**. The first two you have already met, in any case, while in the last *ur* is pronounced with the sound of the *e* in **the**.

Once again, you might find it useful to go through the printed dialogue before you actually listen to it in the recording, seeing if you can work out the pronunciation of the letter *u* each time it appears. Then listen carefully and check whether or not you guessed correctly.

Back in the surgery

In this dialogue, listen carefully to the different ways the letter *u* is pronounced:

Hello, Doctor Fresnay.

Ah, hello, Mr Tonkin. How are you?

Not too well, I'm afraid.

Why? What seems to be the problem?

Well, I think I've got a bit of 'flu. And I've got a few rather disturbing rheumatic pains here in my back, and my big toe hurts...

Oh, dear. How did that happen?

Well, I went out for a run the other day...

A run? I didn't know you were the sporting type, Mr Tonkin.

Well, I'm not usually. But my wife has started going out for runs with one of the neighbours, and she persuaded me to go along with her. I wouldn't mind, but I'm so slow. They have to wait for me to catch up. It's so humiliating. Anyway, unfortunately last Tuesday it started to rain during our run and I got a bit wet, then I slipped and hurt my foot.

Mrs Tonkin going running? Well, that is news. But six months ago she was in a terrible state.

I know, but she started doing a bit of exercise, and since then she's gone absolutely mad. It started with yoga classes, then she took up going for a run every morning at six o'clock. Now she's taken up tennis as well.

But that's marvellous. Is she still smoking?

Oh, no, she packed that in months ago. And she's become a vegetarian as well. She won't touch meat at all. Now all she eats is muesli, wholemeal bread, raw vegetables... God, how I'd like a nice Sunday roast...

My goodness me! All this exercise is doing her some good, I hope?

Oh, yes, she's like a new woman. You ought to see her. She's already lost fifteen pounds. She looks ten years younger. It's killing me, though.

Why?

Well, she makes me do everything she does. She's even put my name down for the next tournament at the Holbein Tennis Club. I haven't played tennis since I was fifteen! If that doesn't kill me, nothing will.

Well, well. I just didn't think it was in her nature. Now, about your cold...

Please don't doctor the doctor



'The doctor', as everybody knows, is the gentleman who cures people when they are ill. So it seems natural to assume that the verb 'to doctor' means 'to cure someone'. Unfortunately, however, this is the rarest of the different meanings this verb has. The most common use of this verb is to talk about something that has been changed, usually in a dishonest way, and usually to make it appear better than it is.

For example, if a businessman falsifies the account of his firm, you can say that he has 'doctored' them. Or you can 'doctor' bad wine by adding some brandy to it. In the past, there was even a kind of brown sherry which was called 'Doctor' because it was made of thin wine, unfermented grape juice and a spiritous liqueur.

It's not difficult to see, at this point, why the ship's cook is called 'the doctor': it's because he is supposed to 'doctor' the food too make it taste better. And doctors are used by gamblers, too: it was a name given to loaded dice which are 'doctored' to make them turn up winning numbers!

Edwina Tonkin: una triunfadora

No hay nada que hacer: triunfador se nace y Mrs Tonkin es la prueba viviente de esta amarga verdad, por lo menos según su marido. No sólo ha logrado acceder al poder y al éxito en su trabajo, sino que en el momento en que el estrés, el tabaco y los hábitos alimentarios inadecuados amenazaban seriamente su salud, ha dado prueba de una notable autodisciplina modificando radicalmente su estilo de vida. Y ahora que la gimnasia y el deporte forman parte de su vida cotidiana, se ha transformado en una Mrs Tonkin rejuvenecida y cada vez más competitiva que obliga a su marido, no tan en forma, a extenuantes carreras matutinas y lo humilla derrotándolo sin piedad en el torneo de tenis de la empresa. Entonces, no hay que asombrarse de que el pobre y frustrado Mr Tonkin llegue al diván del psicoanalista devorado por el resentimiento y con complejo de inferioridad. La suya es una crisis típica de después de los 40. Esperemos que, al menos, su analista pueda ayudarle de algún modo.



Son pocos los vocablos desconocidos que aparecen en el curso de esta conversación, paródica pero no totalmente irreal: **head-rest**, como podrá fácilmente intuir, significa 'reposacabeza'; **tournament** quiere decir 'torneo', mientras que **doubles** es el 'dobles' castellano, es decir la modalidad de tenis por parejas. También encontrará dos útiles **phrasal verbs**: se trata de **to take up**, 'empezar a practicar', normalmente asociado a un deporte o a un hobby, y **to keep up with someone**, 'mantenerse a la altura de alguien'. Finalmente, repare en la expresión **Cro-Magnon hunter**, que significa 'cazador de Cro-Magnon', el robusto homínido con quien Mr Tonkin amargamente compara al robusto joven que forma pareja con su esposa en el torneo de tenis.

I CAN'T KEEP UP

- ~ Now then, Mr Tonkin. I'd like you to lie down on the couch and tell me the first thing that comes into your head. ---
- ~ Edwina. ---
- ~ Edwina? Who's Edwina? ---
- ~ My wife. ---
- ~ Your wife. ---
- ~ Yes, my wife. She's the chairman of a large company called Holbein Holdings. She makes me feel so small. ---
- ~ Why does she make you feel small? ---
- ~ Well, it's always been that way, I suppose. She's had a very successful career, you see, and I've got no further than head of the Accounts Department at Sampson's Headrests... ---
- ~ Sampson's Headrests? ---
- ~ Yes. They make plastic headrests for baths. It's not a very large company. Anyway, I've never let it worry me too much. But then, six months ago,



- my wife had to go to the hospital... ---
- ~ Why did she have to do that? ---
- ~ Oh, it was nothing too serious — just a check-up — but the results weren't very encouraging. Anyway, when our doctor urged Edwina to get more exercise, I didn't think anything of it. I even encouraged her. I persuaded her to go to yoga clases and helped her through the first few weeks, when she felt like giving up all the time. ---
- ~ And what happened then? ---
- ~ Well, at first she didn't like it very much, of course, but then she started enjoying it. In fact, she enjoyed physical exercise so much that she started taking up other sports. That's when the trouble really started. ---
- ~ What do you mean exactly? ---
- ~ Well, she started getting up at half past six every morning to go for a run. And she made me go running as well... and I'm terrible at it. She and her bloody friend Margaret make me feel so small: they have to wait for me every 500 yards, otherwise I can't keep up with them. They do it on purpose. I know they do. ---
- ~ I see. ---
- ~ But the worst thing of all was the tennis. ---
- ~ The tennis? ---
- ~ Yes. She took up tennis. Then she entered the Holbein tennis tournament, and she put my name down as well. We played in the doubles; she played with the Holbein Chief Accountant... he's 30 with a physique like a Cro-Magnon hunter. ---
- ~ And who did you play with? ---
- ~ A very large woman from the typing pool. We lost 6-0, 6-0, 6-0. In 35 minutes. God, it was so humiliating. In front of all those people... to be beaten by your own wife! I can't stand it any longer! I feel so inadequate! Doctor, you must do something. ---
- ~ Now, now, Mr Tonkin... don't cry... ---



Why don't you take up yoga? Después de algunas yoga classes podrá fácilmente asumir the lotus position.



Knights in white ambulances

If you ever have the chance to travel in an English ambulance (and let's hope it doesn't happen!), you may well find yourself being driven to the hospital by members of the St John's Ambulance Brigade. What you may not realise, however, is that this body of volunteers belongs to an organization that dates back to 1048!

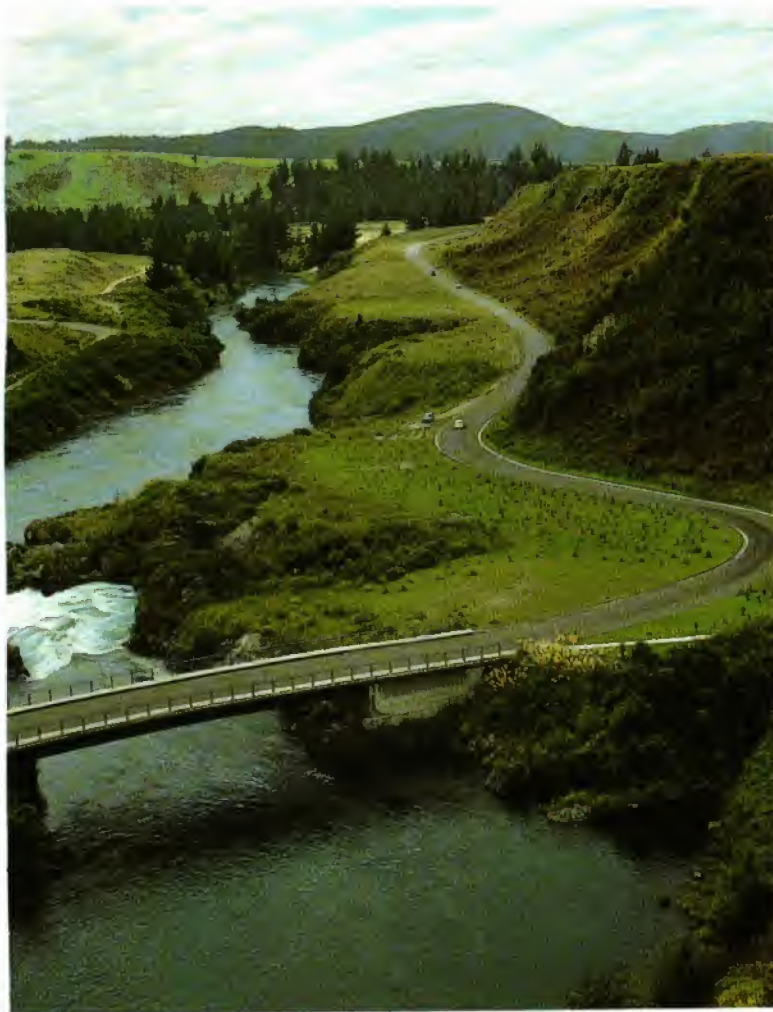
The original Knights of St John were actually founded in that year in the city of Jerusalem, and their main task was to help pilgrims who were travelling through the Holy Land. In 1310 the order moved to the island of Rhodes, and for a while were known as the Knights of Rhodes. Then, in 1529, they moved once more, this time to the island of Malta (this ex-

plains the Maltese cross on the sides of their present-day ambulances).

After the Reformation, the order was abolished in England, but a branch was revived in 1831, and 27 years later this body declared itself independent from the international order, which at that time had its headquarters in Rome. At the same time, it took on the name of the Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, and it was this organization which founded the now-famous St John's Ambulance Service in 1877. Since then the Brigade has worked alongside the regular ambulance service, offering a rapid and, at times, lifesaving service getting people to hospital as quickly as possible.

Las truchas arcoiris

Los pescadores que visitan la isla del Norte no olvidan con facilidad el lago Taupo, por la presencia en sus aguas de truchas arcoiris de extraordinario tamaño. Se trata de una especie que parece haber nacido para estos lugares, pero, en realidad, la colonia de truchas de Nueva Zelanda no es autóctona, sino que descende de una partida de huevas traídas de California hace casi un siglo. Evidentemente, los peces se han aclimatado tan bien que han alcanzado dimensiones impensables para cualquiera otra parte del mundo, y a primera vista resultan incluso un poco monstruosas. En las fotos de abajo, el lago Taupo; al lado, el cercano volcán Ngaruhoe.



Indirectamente te pido que sigas mis consejos

Verbos usados en el estilo indirecto

Los verbos más comúnmente utilizados para referir lo que se ha dicho, pensado o escrito son **to tell** y **to say** y, para las preguntas, **to ask**. No obstante, como se ha visto en la Unidad 82, muchos otros **reporting verbs** pueden cumplir estas funciones: sólo resta escoger el más adecuado para el caso.



Pedir consejos o instrucciones. Cuando el estilo directo está constituido por preguntas que expresan la petición de consejos o instrucciones, pasando al estilo indirecto se pueden utilizar, además de **to ask**, también los verbos **to inquire** o **to want to know**, cuidando de omitir, en estos dos últimos, el objeto indirecto, es decir la persona a quien se dirige la pregunta.

She asked the doctor what she should eat to lose weight.

She inquired what she should eat to lose weight.

She wanted to know what she should eat to lose weight.

I asked the yogi how we were supposed to do the exercise.

I inquired how we were supposed to do the exercise.

I wanted to know how we were supposed to do the exercise.

Expresar recomendaciones, consejos y órdenes. Para pasar al estilo indirecto frases en las que se expresan recomendaciones, consejos y órdenes, además de **to tell** y **to ask** se puede recurrir a diferentes **reporting verbs** tales como **to beg** (suplicar, pedir insistentemente), **to urge** (exhortar, incitar), **to invite**, **to command**, **to order**, **to encourage**, **to advise**, **to recommend**. Desde el punto de vista sintáctico, los verbos citados (incluidos **to tell** y **to ask**) requieren la construcción con el infinitivo y el complemento directo; su forma negativa se obtiene simplemente anteponiendo **not** a la partícula **to** del infinitivo. Observe los siguientes ejemplos:

He told me not to eat any more red meat and rich food.

He asked me to lie down on the couch.

My wife begged me to take more care of my health.

The doctor urged me to get more sleep.

He invited me to eat things like wholemeal bread and carrots.

My husband almost commanded me to go to the Smetham clinic.

He virtually ordered me to give up smoking.

Margie encouraged me to live a healthier life.

The yogi advised me to avoid stress.

The doctor recommended me to change my diet.

Formular invitaciones, ofrecimientos y solicitudes. Los verbos modales **shall**, **will**, **would** y **could** pueden ser utilizados para formular invitaciones, ofrecimientos de ayuda y solicitudes:

'Shall I help you with this exercise?'

'Will you come for a run with us tomorrow?'

'Would you lie down over here on the couch?'

'Could you wait a moment?'

En la transposición de preguntas de este tipo al estilo indirecto se debe utilizar, además de **to ask**, también los **reporting verbs** **to invite** y **to offer**, que normalmente rigen la construcción con el infinitivo. La única particularidad consiste en el hecho de que **to offer** no acepta el complemento directo:

One of the students offered to help me with the exercise.

She invited me to go for a run with them the next day.

The doctor asked me to lie down on the couch.

She asked me to wait a moment.

Expresar propuestas y sugerencias. Las construcciones adecuadas para proponer o sugerir algo son múltiples en inglés. He aquí algunas:

'Shall we meet at the Town Hall?'

'Let's meet at the Town Hall.'

'Why don't you start taking regular exercise?'

'You should start taking regular exercise.'

Al pasar del estilo directo al indirecto se puede utilizar como **reporting verb** también **to suggest**. Este verbo, a diferencia de los citados hasta ahora, no acepta la construcción con el infinitivo, pero puede ir seguido por el gerundio (a veces precedido por un adjetivo posesivo), o bien por una frase introducida por la conjunción **that** seguida por el modal **should** y por el verbo principal:

She suggested meeting at the Town Hall.

She suggested that we should meet at the Town Hall.

The doctor suggested (her) taking regular exercise.

The doctor suggested that she should take regular exercise.



En esta sección ha aprendido:

- Uso y construcción de los **reporting verbs** adecuados para la transformación al estilo indirecto de solicitudes de consejos y de instrucciones, recomendaciones, órdenes, invitaciones, ofrecimientos, peticiones, propuestas y sugerencias.

Una receta contra las verrugas

Incluso en la actualidad, todavía tenemos a menudo la presunción de saber curar nuestros males por cuenta propia, a veces con sistemas ingeniosos pero carentes de todo fundamento científico. Imagínese entonces cuál podía ser la relación con la enfermedad, su tratamiento y su curación, en sociedades menos avanzadas que la nuestra. En general, la figura del médico no era convocada sino en situaciones excepcionales, y

para cosas de poca monta se recurría a recetas tradicionales, a menudo dictadas por creencias supersticiosas. Es muy arduo establecer cómo nacieron ciertas fórmulas para medicamentos y cómo se corrió la voz de su eficacia. De hecho, algunas de las más extravagantes sólo eran llevadas a la práctica por gente muy ingenua.

Encontrará un buen ejemplo de este tema, relatado en clave cómica, en el presente fragmento tomado de *'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer'*, de Mark Twain, publicado en 1876. Los dos muchachos protagonistas de la novela, Tom Sawyer y Huckleberry Finn, son los típicos representantes de una cierta infancia pícaro y rebelde, que

rechaza las reglas opresivas de los adultos y de la gente de bien y prefiere tomar sus modelos de conducta de individuos marginales: otros niños rebeldes, los desheredados, los bandidos y los negros. En este episodio en concreto los dos amigos se intercambian improbables recetas para eliminar las verrugas, con la ayuda de agua pútrida o de gatos muertos. Notará cómo el autor se divierte recreando un lenguaje jergal, ayuno de gramática y cargado de inflexiones; el más similar posible al modo de hablar del Sur de Estados Unidos, pero sobre todo al modo de expresión anticonvencional de los niños. En las imágenes, algunas ilustraciones de Louis Slobodkin.



Tom hailed¹ the romantic outcast²:

'Hello, Huckleberry!'

'Hello yourself, and see how you like it.'³

'What's that you got?'

'Dead cat.'

'Lemme⁴ see him, Huck. My⁵, he's pretty stiff⁶. Where'd you get him?'

'Bought him off'n⁷ a boy.'

'What did you give?'

'I give⁹ a blue ticket and a bladder¹⁰ that I got at the slaughter-house¹¹.'

'Where'd you get the blue ticket?'

'Bought¹² it off'n Ben Rogers two weeks ago for a hoopstick¹³.'

'Say-what is dead cats good for, Huck?'¹⁴

'Good for? Cure warts¹⁵ with.'

'No! Is that so?¹⁶ I know something that's better.'

'I bet you don't. What is it?'

'Why, spunk-water¹⁷.'

'Spunk-water! I wouldn't give a dern¹⁸ for spunk-water.'

'You wouldn't, wouldn't you? D'you¹⁹ ever try it?'

'No, I hain't²⁰. But Bob Tanner did.'

'Who told you so?'

'Why, he told Jeff Thatcher, and Jeff told Johnny Baker, and Johnny told Jim Hollis, and Jim told Ben Rogers, and

1. Hailed: saludó.

2. Outcast: marginado. Huck, debido a sus orígenes, era despreciado por la gente 'de bien' de St. Petersburg, pero admirado por muchachitos que envidiaban su independencia y su originalidad.

3. 'Hello yourself, and see how you like it': es una fórmula de saludo muy cómica, usada por los chavales de aquella época para dirigirse a sus compañeros.

4. Lemme: está por let me; a menudo Twain trata de reproducir con

una grafía particular la pronunciación contracta y alterada en uso entre los muchachos del Sur.

5. My: es una exclamación de sorpresa que corresponde más o menos al español 'caramba'.

6. Stiff: rígido.

7. Where'd: está por where did.

8. Off'n: está por off of. Esta vez, además de reproducir gráficamente la típica inflexión de la zona, Twain pone en boca de Huckleberry Finn una expresión antigramatical: la construcción correcta

se realiza solamente con off.

9. I give: he dado. También aquí, advierte el error gramatical de Huck: give sustituye a gave.

10. Bladder: vejiga.

11. Slaughter-house: matadero.

12. Bought: note la omisión del sujeto.

13. Hoopstick: es el bastón utilizado para hacer girar el aro. Se trata de un juego en boga en el siglo XIX.

14. 'Say-what is dead cats good for, Huck?': 'Dime, Huck, ¿para qué sirve un gato muerto?'. Obvia-

mente, el verbo debería estar en plural.

15. Warts: verrugas.

16. Is that so?: ¿de verdad?

17. Spunk-water: este término compuesto indica, probablemente, el agua de lluvia que permanece en el interior de los troncos viejos y huecos.

18. I wouldn't give a dern: expresión construida sobre el modelo de I don't give a damn, que quiere decir 'me importa un rábano'. La frase puede ser traducida al espa-

Ben told a nigger²¹, and the nigger told me. There now!²²

'Well, what of it?²³ They'll all lie. Leastways²⁴ all but the nigger. I don't know *him*. But I never see a nigger that *wouldn't* lie. Shucks²⁵! Now you tell me how Bob Tanner done²⁶ it, Huck.'

'Why, he took and dipped²⁷ his hand in a rotten stump²⁸ where the rain-water was.'

'In the daytime²⁹?'

'Certainly.'

'With his face to the stump?'

'Yes. Least³⁰ I reckon so.'

'Did he *say* anything?'

'I don't reckon he did. I don't know.'

'Aha! Talk about trying to cure warts with spunk-water such a blame-fool³¹ way as that! Why, that ain't a-going³² to do any good. You got³³ to go all by yourself, to the middle of the woods, where you know there's a spunk-water stump, and just as it's midnight you back up³⁴ against the stump and jam³⁵ your hand in and say:

"Barley-corn³⁶, barley-corn, injun-meal shorts³⁷, Spunk-water, spunk-water, swaller³⁸ these warts," and then walk away quick, eleven steps, with your eyes

shut³⁹, and then turn around⁴⁰ three times and walk home without speaking to anybody. Because if you speak the charm's busted⁴¹.'

'Well, that sounds like a good way; but that ain't the way Bob Tanner done.'

'No, sir, you can bet he didn't, becuz⁴² he's the wartiest⁴³ boy in this town; and he wouldn't have a wart on him if he'd knowed⁴⁴ how to work⁴⁵ spunk-water. I've took off thousands of warts off⁴⁶ of my hands that way, Huck. I play with frogs so much that I've always got considerable⁴⁷ many warts. Sometimes I take 'em⁴⁸ off with a bean.'

'Yes, bean's good. I've done that.'

'Have you? What's your way?'

'You take and split the bean, and cut the wart so as to get some blood, and then you put the blood on one piece of the bean and take and dig⁴⁹ a hole and bury it 'bout⁵⁰ midnight at the crossroads in the dark of the moon⁵¹, and then you burn up⁵² the rest of the bean. You see that piece that's got the blood on it will keep drawing⁵³ and drawing, trying to fetch⁵⁴ the other piece to it, and so that helps the blood to draw the wart, and pretty soon off she comes⁵⁵.'



ñol como 'no daría un chavo'.

19. D'you: se trata de la contracción de *did you*.

20. I hain't: aquí también, la forma correcta sería *I haven't*.

21. Nigger: negro. En el inglés contemporáneo es un término muy ofensivo, pero en el siglo XIX aún no había adquirido tales connotaciones negativas.

22. There now!: ¡toma ya!

23. What of it?: ¿y entonces?

24. Leastways: en todo caso, por lo menos.

25. Shucks: ¡qué va!

26. Done: naturalmente la forma correcta sería *did*.

27. Dipped: mojó.

28. Rotten stump: tronco podrido.

29. In the daytime: de día.

30. Least: tendría que haber dicho *at least*, que significa 'por lo menos'.

31. Blame-fool: estúpido.

32. Ain't a-going: isn't going; nuevamente Mark Twain está tratando de reproducir la inflexión dialectal de la gente del lugar, que muy a

menudo añade una 'a' delante de los participios y de los gerundios.

33. Got: la forma correcta sería *you've got*.

34. Back up: retrocedes.

35. Jam: introduces.

36. Barley-corn: grano de cebada.

37. Injun-meal shorts: injun-meal, que reproduce gráficamente la pronunciación de *Indian meal*, es el maíz molido. Unido a *shorts*, indica la parte de menor calidad de una mezcla compuesta por diferentes tipos de granos.

38. Swaller: está por *to swallow*, que significa 'tragar'.

39. Shut: cerrados.

40. Turn around: gira sobre ti mismo.

41. Charm's busted: charm significa 'encantamiento' 'hechizo'; *to bust* es un verbo muy coloquial que se acerca al español 'romper', 'infringir'.

42. Becuz: because.

43. Wartiest: es el superlativo de *warty*, es decir 'lleno de verrugas'.

44. He'd knowed: otra vez Tom utiliza una forma verbal equivocada. Debería usar *knew*.

45. To work: hacer funcionar.

46. I've took off thousands of warts off: otra frase con una forma verbal equivocada y con un *off* de más. La expresión correcta sería *I've taken thousands of warts off*.

47. Considerable: es un adjetivo usado como adverbio; con él Tom quiere subrayar el gran número de verrugas que le salieron por jugar con ranas.

48. 'em: them.

49. Dig: excavaciones.

50. Bury it 'bout: sepultarlo en torno; 'bout está por *about*.

51. In the dark of the moon: en la oscuridad de la noche.

52. Burn up: quemar.

53. Drawing: tirando.

54. To fetch: de atraer.

55. Off she comes: entonces desaparece. Note que *wart* es considerado sustantivo femenino.



Los maoríes vinieron a la caza de moas

Sólo 300.000 de los casi tres millones de neozelandeses pertenecen a la originaria población maorí, que ha sobrevivido a dos siglos de colonización. Se cree que la primera oleada de maoríes llegó de Polinesia en torno al siglo IX; otros se agregaron en migraciones sucesivas, hasta el siglo XIV. Estos primitivos habitantes sobrevivían cazando moas, grandes aves corredoras que acabaron por ser exterminadas. Como sus actuales descendientes, los maoríes habían establecido una rígida estructura social, fundada en las castas, que también se reflejaba en la disposición de las poblaciones fortificadas, los 'pa'. En las imágenes, un poblado en las proximidades de Rotorua y esculturas maoríes.



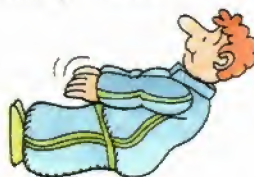
(to) accept	aceptar
(to) beg	suplicar
big toe	dedo gordo del pie
business lunch	almuerzo de trabajo
(to) catch up	alcanzar
check-up	control médico
cholesterol count	tasa de colesterol
(to) command	ordenar
couch	catre
Council	Ayuntamiento
(to) creak	crujir, rechinar
cream cake	tarta de nata
crocodile	cocodrilo
(to) cut down	reducir, disminuir
diet	dieta, alimentación
disturbing	molesto, fastidioso
doubles	dobles (tenis)
dressed up	vestido
(to) encourage	alentar, animar
executive	ejecutivo, directivo
exercise	ejercicio, movimiento
flu	gripe
(to) get on	arreglárselas
(to) give up	dejar, renunciar
(to) go into	profundizar
gymnastics	gimnasia
headrest	reposacabeza
humiliating	humillante
inadequate	inadecuado
inauspicious	nefasto, malaventurado
(to) inquire	preguntar
locust	langosta, saltamontes
(to) offer	ofrecer, ofrecerse

Deportivos de vez en cuando

in turn	a su vez
on the part of	de parte de
once in a while	de vez en cuando
right now	en este momento, ahora mismo
that's a laugh!	¡ésta sí que es buena!
that's what you think	esto es lo que piensas
the sporting type	un tipo deportivo
up you get!	¡levántate!



(to) persuade	persuadir
physique	físico
properly	bien, propiamente
rejuvenated	rejuvenecido
results	resultados de los análisis
rheumatic pain	dolor reumático, reumatismo
rosy	rosado, rosáceo
sheet	hoja
(to) slip	resbalar



spare tyre	micelín
strenuous	fatigoso
(to) suggest	sugerir, proponer
surgery	dispensario
(to) take up	comenzar a practicar
test	análisis
therapeutic	terapéutico
tournament	torneo
track suit	chándal
(to) urge	exhortar, incitar
vegetarian	vegetariano
waist	cintura, talle
wholemeal bread	pan integral
yogi	maestro de yoga, yogui

Synonyms and antonyms

Como habrá observado leyendo esta Unidad, **gentle** tiene un significado muy diferente respecto al español 'gentil'. El sentido principal de este término es 'dulce', 'moderado', 'no violento', y con tal acepción puede acompañar los sustantivos más variados: *There was a gentle smile on her lips; There was a gentle slope leading up to the doors of the hospital; There was a gentle breeze blowing this morning when I went out for my run.* En este caso, los adjetivos españoles que mejor podrían traducir el inglés **gentle** son 'leve' o bien 'ligero'.

También se puede utilizar el término **gentle** con referencia a una persona de la cual se quiere subrayar no tanto la gentileza como la calidad moral y la delicadeza de los modales: *The nurse was very gentle with the baby.*

En cambio, el equivalente inglés del español 'gentil' es **kind**: *The doctor was a very kind man, but unfortunately he wasn't very gentle with the children.*



Agitados y en mal estado

can you imagine?	¿te imaginas?
(to) check someone's pulse	controlar el pulso a alguien
(to) get into a state	ponerse muy nervioso
I'm in a bit of a state	estoy algo pachucho
(to) keep up with someone	mantenerse al nivel de alguien
(to) put one's name down	inscribirse
she's got a lot to answer for	debe responder por muchas cosas
(to) smoke like a chimney	fumar como una chimenea
(to) take someone's pulse	controlar el pulso a alguien



¿Quién teme a los caníbales?

La región llamada Northland, cuyo extremo norte es Cape Regina (en las fotos), es una península larga e irregular bordeada por playas turísticas muy cálidas. Aquí empezó la historia moderna de Nueva Zelanda, originada por la actividad de balleneros y cazadores de focas que, a principios del siglo XIX, establecieron los primeros contactos con los maoríes. Hasta 1840, año en que los jefes indígenas reconocieron la soberanía inglesa a cambio de la posesión de territorios tribales, la convivencia con los nativos —amenazada aún por el espectro del canibalismo— no fue nada tranquila.



Exercise 1

Este ejercicio es un dictado tomado de la sección Reading. Escuche toda la grabación, luego vuelva a escucharla y transcriba el fragmento aparte. Luego confronte lo que ha escrito con el texto que figura en las soluciones.

Exercise 2

Pase estas frases al estilo indirecto:

- a) 'Shall I give up smoking Churchill cigars?' Helen asked the doctor.
- b) 'Shall I take up running or yoga?' Edwina asked her husband.
- c) 'Shall I buy you some new running shoes, Samantha?' said Tim.
- d) 'Do you think I should take an aspirin or just go to bed, James?' asked Verity.
- e) 'Do you want me to help you with your yoga exercises?' Margaret asked her friend.
- f) 'Will you be at the surgery tomorrow?' the nurse asked the doctor.
- g) 'Will you help me look for my tranquillizers?' John shouted to his wife.
- h) 'Lie down, Mr Hanley', said the psychoanalyst.
- i) 'I think you should start eating more fruit', said the dietician to his daughter.
- j) 'Don't take any more than four tablets a day', the doctor said to Philip.
- k) 'You must stop working so hard, Frank', said the doctor.
- l) 'Now relax and tell me all about it', Dr Froid said to Mr Ratt.
- m) The woman said, 'Could I talk to Doctor Livingsstone, please?'

Complete estas frases con las expresiones
idiomáticas halladas en esta Unidad:

-
- A cartoon illustration of a man with a large nose, wearing a blue checkered jacket and a blue tie. He is holding a lit cigarette in his mouth and a smoking pipe in his right hand. Blue smoke is rising from both the cigarette and the pipe.

Lea el fragmento y trate de deducir el significado de las palabras de la lista:

Exercise 5

Reconstruya las dos conversaciones que se ocultan en este ejercicio, colocando las frases en el orden correcto. La primera conversación empieza con la frase indicada por la letra a; la segunda, con la indicada por la letra b.

- l) Alright, then. Eat what you can and leave the rest.
- m) Are you still smoking?
- n) Carlston Strong.
- ñ) I'm got giving you any. It's bad for you. It's got caffen in it.
- o) Why don't you try smoking a low-tar cigarette? That would help.
- p) You want me to drink orange juice after a plate of this rabbit food? Where's the coffee?
- q) Muesli? But I hate the stuff.
- r) How's the cough today?
- s) It's muesli, dear.
- t) Mmm. How many cigarettes do you smoke a day?
- u) What does it look like? It's orange juice, of course.
- v) Yes, I am, I'm afraid.
- w) Okay, doctor.
- x) Look, if you eat your muesli and drink your orange juice, I might give you a cup of coffee after. Alright?
- y) About twenty.



-

Exercise 3

a) Can you imagine... b) Up you get... c) put my name down... d) smokes like a chimney... e) gets (goes) into a state... f) Right now... g) That's a laugh.

Exercise 4

a) something that is very easy to do... b) the area between the limits... c) the maximum... d) to move at least but comfortable speed... e) a unit for measuring the power an engine develops... f) to work very little... g) liveliness... h) vitality.

Exercise 5

El orden correcto es el siguiente: a, l, i, r, h, m, v, x, y, g, c, j, n, o, w, b, s, g, f, k, l, e, p, u, d.

SOLUCION DE LOS EJERCICIOS

Exercise 2

El aquí el texto del diccionario. You take and split the bean, and cut the wart so as to get some blood, and then you put the blood on one piece of the bean and take and dig a hole and bury it about midnight at the crossroads in the dark of the moon, and then you burn up the rest of the bean. You see that piece that's got the blood on it will keep drawing and drawing, trying to fetch the other piece to it, and so that helps the blood to draw the wart, and pretty soon off she comes.



La vida en las granjas

El asentamiento de la población de Nueva Zelanda mantiene, todavía hoy, las típicas características de las tierras de reciente colonización, con el obstáculo agregado de un territorio en gran parte accidentado. Solamente en algunas ciudades o en los valles más acogedores, como el del río Waipa, se encuentran grandes concentraciones humanas. El resto de la población, constituida por familias de agricultores y ganaderos, está distribuida en granjas aisladas (fotos de arriba y de la izquierda). Esto es así, obviamente, por el tipo de actividad que predomina: la cría de ovinos, que requiere grandes extensiones para el pastoreo. En su mayor parte, las fincas son de medianas dimensiones, entre las 30 y 40 hectáreas.